

A Brief and True  
NARRATION

Of the Late

V. V. A. R. S.

RISEN IN

New-England:

Occasioned by the Quarrellom disposition,  
and Perfidious Carriage

OF THE

Barbarous, Savage and Heathenish

N A T I V E S

There.

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Licensed November 16. Roger Lefstrange.

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L O N D O N

Printed for J. S. 1675.

MARKET

WARS

W-England

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and [unclear] [unclear]

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## B O S T O N

SEPTEMBER 7<sup>th</sup>. 1675.

S I R,

**T**Is not to be doubted but that Fame ere this hath founded in your Ears that the *Indians* in *New England*, have, by a late *Rupture* disturbed the long and orderly *Peace*, that hath been enjoyed by us in these *Flourishing Plantations* of English in *New England*. And to the intent you might, without aggravating or diminishing of our *Troubles* here, have a true *Narrative* of these *Indians Strife*, I have taken the care to commit this following *Relation* to Paper.

In the South parts of *New Plymouth Colony* in *New England*, is a Promontory of Land, about twelve miles long, called by the English *Mount Hope*, inhabited by *Indians*, whose Chief is named *Metacan*, by the English called *King Philip*, whose Grandfather *Massafer* in King *James's* time was *Sachem*, i. e. Chief Lord of almost all the Lands in the said *New Plymouth Colony*: but hath been since at several times sold by the *Indian Sachems* and people to the English, who by their great industry, have of a howling Wilderness improved those Lands into Corn fields, Orchards, enclosed Pastures, and Towns inhabited; which hath considerably advanced the value of Lands: which possibly makes some *Indians* repent the sale of them, and particularly *Sachem Philip*, of his confining himself unto so narrow a Territory: Therefore about five years ago he took occasion to quarrel with the Inhabitants of the next English Town, called *Swansey*, adjoining to his Tract of Land, about Bounds and Fences; and being a Brother of his, about five years since died in an English Town, he said, not without suspicion of poison, by an English Chyrurgeon, though there was no ground for it; which he said he would by force revenge

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upon

upon them. But by the Union of the Massachusetts Colony all differences were ended, and Philip obliged himself to be personally present with two Wolves heads at the yearly Court of Election in Plymouth Colony. The last Winter a Christian Indian Scholar, named *Sasamon*, went to preach the Gospel to Philip and his Indians, by his and their permission; but after some time *Sagamore Philip* grew discontent with *Sasamon*: wherefore *Sasamon* returned from them, to go to the Governour of New Plymouth *Jesiah Winslow* Esq. but in his return three of *Philip's* Indians set on him and murdered him. These three Caitiffs were soon after apprehended by Governour *Winslow*, and upon clear Evidence and a legal Trial, had Judgment of Death; two of them soon after were executed, but the third breaking his Halter, was carried back and reserved for Execution. This not a little displeased *Philip*, who feared (thru his own guilt) that the English would not rest there, though they did not any way molest him by Trial or otherwise; upon which *Philip* secretly sent his Messengers to several Indian *Sachems*, to enter into a strict Confederacy with him against the English; and himself arms about 700 of his men, and obtains 1000 more of his Confederates: and what others besides these he hath engaged to his party, is to the English unknown, though 'tis shrewdly suspected this Covell Subtil Fellow hath engaged most of the Indians in the Countrey to espouse his Quarrel as a Common Cause. All this Spring *Philip's* soldiers (who were well fixed with Gun, Powder, Shot, &c. which they had long since gotten of the Dutch, French, yea, and of some English themselves) were seen marching in their Arms even at the planting their Corn; of which unnecessary preparations, the neighbouring English of *Massachusetts* and *Rhode Island* were very apprehensive: and discoursing with the *Sagamore* about it, he said some had threatned him that he should be hanged at *Plymouth*, but if he must die, he would die on his own land. Upon the 10th, seven of *Sagamore Philip's* men came armed to a *Swiss* mans house to grind a Hatchet; the man told them it was the Lords Day; they said they cared not for that; they would do it for all him, or his God. They then went to another House and asked for *Vicuals* and *Tobacco*, some was given them and some they took, but here no man; the same day they took a *Swiss* man, travelling from *Rhode Island*, through the land, and kept him prisoner all night, used him kindly and sent him home the next day with this caution, that he should tell no lies. Up

on these Jealousies *Swansey* men sent to *Plymouth* and the Bay for aid, and accordingly 600 Volunteers Horse and Foot, were sent under the Command of Major General *Thomas Savage*, a very active person. But before these Succours came, *Swansey* men destroyed their houses and drove all their Inhabitants into three Garrison houses. In this month of *June* the Election was at *Plymouth*, and *Sagamore Philip* came not with his Tributaries of two Wolves heads, according to his League last made. *June 23*. An Englishman seeing an Indian entering a deserted *Swansey* house shot at him. *June* the 24th the Indians shot at several men travelling through *Rehoboth*, but slew none there; but at *Swansey* they killed six men, going with a Cart, and set on one of the Garrison houses, and there killed two more and wounded other two, and likewise killed two that were travelling for a *Chirurgion*. Thus war began. The Indians have killed several *Swansey* people, burnt 21 houses in that Town, destroyed hundreds of Cattle, pulled down Fences, ruined much Corn and Hay in *Plymouth Colony*. The Indians lie lurking and stalking in hideous woody Swamps, and thence see on travellers or men at their labours. At *New Dartmouth* (a Town in *Plymouth Colony*, most of them Quakers), they burnt all their houses but one, viz. 29, and slew several persons. In *Middlebrough* the Indians burnt 21 houses. In *Fauntleroy* they burnt ten houses and killed ten persons. In *Rehoboth* they have destroyed eight houses, but killed none of the Inhabitants. While they were a firing *Rehoboth*, a Troop of English chased the Indians thence, and killed four Indians, one of which was *Sagamore Philip's* Brother, and the English had one Trooper slain. At *Mendon* a Town in the *Massachusetts*, 30 miles from *Boston*, the Indians killed three men, a woman and two children. And at *Dorchester*, on a Sabbath Day an Indian shot at a Maid in a lone house, but missed her. He with a generous courage charged and discharged a Pistol at the Indian, and so wounded him, that he had much ado to escape by flying away. The English Forces at the first attempt drove *Sagamore Philip* out of his Countrey, seized his Fort with 200 bushels of Corn, his Saddle and some of his Horses, where they found four English heads on poles, which they took down, placing four Indian heads in their places. Thence they pursued the Indians into a Swamp, and fired at the Indians, and lost six men besides nine wounded, but how many Indians we killed we cannot tell, for so thick were the bushes, that hardly one was to be seen. Night overtaking the English, they having first forced *Sagamore Philip's* men from their Wigwams,



wans, they returned out of the Swampe. A party of our men engaged 400 Indians, and forced them over a Bridge, where we found two of *Sagamore Philips* chief men dead; but the rest immured themselves in a Swampe near *Pocassit*, 7 miles long. Thus *July* ended, but in the beginning of *August*, the English having increased their numbers, resolved to begirt the Swampe, and fall upon *Philips* Camp, which second attempt being began, *Sagamore Philips* rushes out of the Swampe with his whole people, men, women and children, in sight of the English Army; making a direful out-cry. But our men resolutely fell on them, and in an hour or two dissipated the Indians and slew about twenty of them, one of whom was *Sagamore Philips* Lieutenant General, without the loss of one of us. But *Sagamore Philips*, with most of his people, fled away again through the Swampe, clear out of that side of the Countrey, and all his Wigwams and Baggage was posselt by the English.

*Uncas* a Southern Sachem, sent 40 at the first of his men well armed to the Massachusetts, to aid the English against *Philip*, and the English ordered them to march with their Head Army. After the last Skirmish, 40 of *Philips* Indians yielded themselves to the English at discretion, by whom we hope to have a full discovery of the Indians plots, numbers, confederacies, and their hiding places.

All the Indians quite through the Countrey are in Arms, yet pretend favour to the English, however we trust them not, as knowing they wait a fit occasion against us: to prevent which the *Connecticut Colony* sent 300 men to the *Moragan/et* Sachem, to force him to declare himself. On their approach he concluded a peace with the English, gave Hostages, and sent 100 of his men against *Philip*. The English, to encourage them, have promised them 20 Coats for *Philip*, and one a piece for each of his men, that they shall kill: but a double reward if they can catch and bring *Philip* or his men alive; for the Englishes design is rather to subject than to destroy the Indians: there being 120 Indian prisoners in the Governor of *Plymouths* Custody, reserved to be made servants of.

Three Sachems of the *Nipmug* Country came to *Quabang*, alias *Brookfield*, an English Town about sixty miles from *Boston*, subscribed to be faithful to the English, and in regard many of the Subjects of those Sachems were praying Indians, the inhabitants of *Brookfield*, were the more confident of their fidelity. The Council sent Captain *Hutchison* and Captain *Whigler*, with thirty horse, into the *Nipmug* Coun-

Country, to treat with the Indians there, and get a clear demonstration of their affection to the English, by delivering their Arm and Hostages. Captain *Hutchinson* with some Townsmen of *Brookfield*, (*viz. Gey, Priebrt, Aires, &c.* who had so much affiance in the Indians as not to carry weapons with them) went to treat with the Sachems, August 2. 75. at a place appointed by them: But the Indians not appearing there, the Captain went near to a Swampe thereby, out of which the Indians furiously rushed on Captain *Hutchinson's* party in great numbers, and killed six persons, and wounded eight more, of which Captain *Wheeler* and Captain *Hutchinson* were two. The Captains with their remainders hastied to the Town, and immediately go: all the inhabitants of *Brookfield* into one house, being about seventy in number. The Indians in two hours space fired all the deserted houses in the Town, *viz.* twenty; and came with most hideous yellings, in way of triumph, and besieged Captain *Hutchinson* and the Towns people, shooting day and night for three days together, and attempting to set the Garison-house on fire, which two or three times had likely to have been done, but that they within quenched it, and once a great shower of rain put out the fire. The Indians provided an Engine with thirty two pair of wheels, to fire the Garison house at fourteen rods distance: The English within used their utmost diligence to make their defence, and lost only one within, and one killed, that occasionally slept out. In the midst of this exigent two English women were safely delivered in Child-birth in the English house.

Major *Willard* being near *Launcester*, hearing of the distress of those at *Brookfield*, marched with fifty or sixty Dragoons to their relief, and came in the night, and forc'd their way through the Indians into the yard of the Garison-house; securing their horses, they fired several volleys on the Indians, who in a little while fled all away. Thus all these persons (blessed be God) were saved out of the hands of these barbarous and treacherous Enemies, when they were at the last gasp, their powder being as it were spent, and all help failing, a mercy not to be forgotten. Captain *Hutchinson* lived about three weeks, and then died of his wounds, in the sixty third year of his age; this worthy Gentleman being the fifth or sixth of his Family who perished by the Indians; for his Mother, Brother, Sister, and Brother-in-law, were murdered by the Indians about thirty seven years since, at or near *Long Island, &c.* Now about this time *Philip* with about forty men came flying from his Country to these three Sachems, and highly applauded





